Course Descriptions None 2026-2027

Course Title	Empirical Research in Education and Labour
Course Code	EBC4240
ECTS Credits	5,0
Assessment	Whole/Half Grades

Period

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
N/A	1-1-1900	1-1-1900					

Level	Advanced
Coordinator	For more information:
Language of instruction	English
Goals	The course aims at providing students an understanding of how to design, implement and interpret empirical research in economics. Students will gain knowledge in measuring relevant economic concepts and in identifying causality in economics. Students will learn about available statistical tools and their main differences, so that they are able to judge the internal validity of empirical studies.
Description	The course provides an overview of methodological and practical issues that arise in empirical economics when (i) measuring concepts in the area of learning and work and (ii) estimating causal relationships. The course covers statistical tools to estimate causal relationships in economics using non-experimental (observable) data and psychometric tools for using test data. We review advantages and pitfalls of various identification strategies, and discuss data requirements. In addition to discussing implementation issues, the course puts particularly emphasize on how to justify the technical assumptions in real-life studies. Examples from the economics of education and labour economics will be discussed. At the end of the course, students should be able to judge which methods are most appropriate in different contexts and circumstances and whether the underlying assumptions are fulfilled. Students will be able to assess the internal validity of empirical studies and make statements with respect to their reliability.
Literature	
Prerequisites	
Keywords	
Transitional Regulations	<ul class="trcohorts"> - Master Economics - No specialisation [2018-2019 - 2020-2021] - Master Economics - Digitalisation and the Future of Learning and Work [2018-2019 - 2020-2021] - In 2021-2022 education and exam/resit opportunities are offered. - In 2022-2023 exam/resit opportunities are offered. - From 2023-2024 onwards, the course is cancelled. Note that from 2023-2024 onwards, EBC4235 "Behavioural and Experimental Methods" is offered as a replacement. <table><col style="width: 200px;"><col style="width: 120px;"><col style="width: 120px;"><col><thead><tr><th>Academic Year</th><th>Education</th><th>Exam/Resit</th><th>Replacement(s)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2021-2022</td><td>X</td><td>X</td><td> </td></tr><tr><td>2022-2023</td><td> </td><td>X</td><td> </td></tr><tr><td>2023-2024 onwards</td><td> </td><td> </td><td>EBC4235 "Behavioural and Experimental Methods"</td></tr></tbody></table>
Teaching methods	
Assessment methods	
Evaluation in previous academic year	For the complete evaluation of this course please click http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation

Master Economics - Digitalisation and the Future of Learning and Work	Cancelled
Master Economics - No specialisation	Cancelled